

From: Joshua Adam Ginsberg
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/10/02 11:56am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Greetings -

I'm sending you a copy of an email that I send to the Attorneys General of the states that did not agree to the proposed settlement with Microsoft. Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General of Connecticut, who in my opinion is serving his constituents in the finest of fashions, suggested that I copy you on that email. It is below.

Thank you for your time, and best of luck to you.

Sincerely,
Joshua Adam Ginsberg

>> Attorneys General -

>>

>> First I would like to commend you and your respective states to refusing
>> to back down to Microsoft in light of its blatant violation of consumer
>> rights and anti-trust laws. You do your constituents a great service.

>>

>> As a member of the technology community, I'd like to provide you with
>> some input regarding your proposals to the court that might help you
>> better understand some of the interests of those most affected by your
>> proposals.

>>

>> I think it's a safe thing to say that it would be counterproductive
>> towards punishing monopolistic practices by extending a monopoly. The
>> rumors that you will propose that Microsoft be required to continue
>> developing MS Office for the MacOS seem to suggest you agree.

>>

>> In this light, let me point you to

>> http://www.redhat.com/about/presscenter/2001/press_usschools.html

>>

>> To summarize this article's contents, RedHat Linux Systems has proposed
>> an alternative to the settlement the DOJ and other states have accepted.
>> Instead of extending the Microsoft monopoly by letting them install more
>> copies of Windows across our nation's poorest schools, RedHat proposes
>> that the money that would have been spent on purchasing more copies of
>> Windows and more support for them be used to purchase more hardware, and
>> RedHat will donate copies of Linux and provide support at no cost.
>> Students would be exposed to a cutting edge desktop operating system and
>> be enlightened to the software world outside the Microsoft monopoly.

>>

>> And even requiring MS to develop Office for Linux (as it's been reported
>> you seek) would be fruitless, because Linux users have available to them

> > complete Office suites for free with as much functionality as the
> > Microsoft suites. Examples are the GNOME Office Suite
> > (<http://www.gnome.org/gnome-office>) the KOffice Suite
> > (<http://www.koffice.org>) and most notably Sun's StarOffice
> > (<http://www.sun.com/staroffice>).
> >
> > Again I commend your resolve to find the right solution as opposed to
> > the easy solution. I appreciate your openness to suggestion. Thank you
> > for your time.
> >
> > Sincerely,
> > Joshua Ginsberg